Border trade through Nathu La

1530. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nathu La route has been opened for border trade between India and China from September, 2005;

(b) if so, how far the timing to open this route is justified when the snow is expected to fall from November, 2005; and

(c) whether the Ministry has foreseen this eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN):(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

India's trade with neighbouring countries

1531. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's trade with Bangladesh, Myanmar, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand has risen to reach over $6.6 billion during 2004-05;

(b) the details of both imports into and exports from our country to the above countries; and

(c) the action plan to further boost exports from India to these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN):(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The details are given below:

In US$ Million

Country	2003-2004		2004-2005	
	Export	Import	Export	Import
Bangladesh	1740.75	77.63	1586.18	54.88
Sri Lanka	1319.20	194.45	1353.75	364.25
Nepal	669.36	286.04	728.46	340.02
Bhutan	89.49	52.37	84.03	50.14